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# Farmington Times

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## OFFICERS, NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(By A. T. Edmonston.)

Jefferson City, Dec. 1.—With the opening of the Fifty-second General Assembly of Missouri less than a week in the future it is still unsettled as to who is to be President pro tem in the Senate, and upon which Democratic Representative will be bestowed the exalted but strenuous glory of being Speaker of the House. Democratic candidates for both honors are numerous but the number will dwindle down materially before the next Legislature is called to order by Lieutenant-Governor Hiram Lloyd of St. Louis.

The next State Senate being Democratic by four it will name a staunch partyman to be President pro tem. This official will name all committees and preside over all important deliberations of that body. Lieutenant-Governor Lloyd will be completely stripped of authority and power and be officially tolerated only to the extent that he is the second chief executive official of Missouri. It will be his duty at \$7 per diem to call the Senate to order daily and adjourn it on motion at the close of each session. John C. McKinley, of Unionville and the late Jacob F. Gmelich, formerly of Booneville, two former Republican Lieutenant-Governors during the last fourteen years, were in the same predicament in their terms owing to a Democratic majority in the Senate. The incoming Senate consists of nineteen Democrats and fifteen Republicans.

### "Casey at the Bat"

Among the Democratic Senators, hold-overs and newly elected, favorably mentioned for President pro tem of the Senate are: M. E. Casey, of Kansas City, Michael Kinney, of St. Louis, Frank H. Farris of Rolla, former Lieutenant-Governor William R. Painter of Carrollton, James E. Whitecotton of Paris and Moberly, and Banker Walter Brownlee of Brookfield. From St. Louis comes the information that Senator Casey is in the lead in the interesting contest with nine of the nineteen Democratic Senators pledged to his support. Only one more senator is needed to confer the honor on this Kaw parliamentarian when the Democratic majority convenes to perfect its organization on Tuesday, January 2, the day before the General Assembly convenes. It is also stated that Senator Farris has nine votes pledged for the honor of being Democratic floor leader. Further information from St. Louis, where the Democratic Senators conferred recently, is to the effect that all hold-over and re-elected tag wearers are behind Senators Casey and Farris for the places just enumerated, and that chairmanships of important committees will be thrown to Senators Whitecotton, Brownlee, A. W. McCawley of Chicago, Ernest R. James of St. Joseph, Painter, Vick T. Cave of Fulton, David Bagby, Jr., of Fayette, Camuel Cunningham of Cabool, Joseph H. Brown and Michael Kinney of St. Louis, B. T. Gordon of Liberty, Jefferson D. Hostetter of Bowling Green and because of their past legislative experience and their parliamentary abilities. It is fully realized that errors of magnitude must not be committed by the Democratic majority in either the Senate or House during the session and for this reason it has been agreed that only Senators with past experience and service in either the House or the Senate be made the presiding officers, floor leaders and committee chairmen.

### Democratic Speaker

A spirited and therefore highly interesting contest is also on for the Speakership of the House with Casper M. Edwards of Dunklin county, Oak Hunter of Randolph county, R. L. Haines of Saline county, G. M. Peters of Clay county and Charles Sutton of Reynolds county in the running, with honors, at the present moment, about equally divided. Representatives Edwards and Hunter are probably campaigning hard for the gift than the other aspirants.

The battle which is being waged by Representative Edwards of Dunklin county to land the speakership is unique from the fact that it is featured with new and original ideas, thereby betwixting twang and snap to a campaign which otherwise would be monotonous. He has sent out fully 500 postal cards, specially printed to make a hit, to every Democratic member of the House and to party leaders of the state. On the side reserved for the communication is a portrait of the contestant and the announcement, in regular form, that he is a candidate for the speakership, together with the further information, briefly put to make it more effective, that he was a member of the House, Dunklin county, during both the Fifth and Fifty-first sessions, and that this term will be his third. The two previous terms give Edwards the parliamentary experience on which he bases his campaign. Two lines in doggerel announce:

"Boost, my brother, boost with zeal,  
To your good judgment I appeal."

Then comes the declaration and quoted maxim of: "The old-timers had a saying: 'Prechin' ain't never over 'til they sing'."

### Hunter's Hale Hunt

Oak Hunter of Randolph is as active in his campaign as is Edwards of Dunklin. His is an unending sassa contest for the speakership since he is flooding the state with carefully typewritten requests for support, each appeal going forth in full dignity in a sealed envelope, carrying a two-cent stamp. In this way it has become known to every Democratic Representative, to all party leaders and to all Democratic newspapers of Missouri that Hunter is on a hale hunt for the big House glory of being

Speaker. It is stated by his friends that fifty-two out of the eighty-three Democratic Representatives look with favor upon his candidacy.

The party caucus the day before the next General Assembly convenes will definitely decide the issue as to Representative who will be the next Speaker in the House. Out of 150 members of the House 83 are Democrats, 65 Republicans, and two seats contested.

### Other House Honors

From Maries county comes the information that E. W. Allison is seeking the honor of being Speaker pro tem of the next House. D. L. Bales, a popular Democratic printer-farmer of Shannon county, who is coming back to serve a fourth term, is being boosted for the strenuous task of being the next party floor leader. Six years of active and hard service in the House as Representative from Shannon county gives him the necessary experience and parliamentary ability.

A woman seeks to become a chaplain of the House. She is Mrs. Edw. James of Holden. Another announced candidate for that place is Rev. G. A. Hoffman of Bloomfield.

It is believed that Frank Armstrong, a well known and influential

Cass county newspaper man who was at the head of the Democratic State Publicity Bureau during the campaign of 1920, will be made official reporter of the Senate.

W. Rufus Hollister, editor, publisher and chief owner of the Jefferson City Capital News and the Missouri State Journal, two of the leading Democratic newspapers of the state, is being suggested for Secretary of the Senate. For years he was prominent in national democracy as secretary for the late United States Senator, William J. Stone. In 1920 as secretary of the Executive Committee of the Democratic National Committee he acquired further prominence. That position put him in close touch with former President Woodrow Wilson, and James A. Cox, the 1920 Democratic presidential nominee. Early in 1922 Hollister was campaign manager for Breckinridge Long, of St. Louis, in his race for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator. Hollister, being a staunch and sterling Democrat, as soon as it became known that Senator Reed had been renominated declared for the party ticket from top to bottom and from then on his two papers as heartily supported Senator Reed for reelection as it had favored Long for the Democratic nomination before the primary.

### Marrs Also a Candidate

R. E. L. Marrs, former chief clerk of the House and Secretary of the Senate in 1917, is again a candidate for secretary of the Senate. He is a prominent and influential Democrat in Southwest Missouri. In 1920 he made the race for the Democratic nomination for State Auditor, only to be defeated by Geo. A. Middlecamp, formerly State Treasurer, who is now a Kansas City banker.

Several other important and minor positions in both the House and the Senate will be carefully doled out by the Democratic majority. One desirable but trying place is the official reporter of the House with a salary of \$7 attached to make it worth while. A chief clerk is also to be elected. The other berths pay from \$3.50 to \$5 a day. The high cost of living has greatly reduced the number of applicants for the places which pay the smaller sums. An army of stenographers and clerks will be needed and both branches of the General Assembly will have many pages to appoint. Secretaries of committees are also to be chosen.

Tim Birmingham of St. James who was Missouri's Fish and Game Commissioner under Gov. Fred D. Gardner, is candidate for Sergeant-at-Arms in the Senate. William Hicks, a Kansas City real estate man, who served six terms of two years each in the House as a representative from Jackson county, seeks the same berth. Jackson L. Benson and Robert A. Volker of Jefferson City are among those slated for clerical appointments in either the House or the Senate. Miss Victoria Walker of California, Mo., and Miss Etta Lou Carter of Jefferson City, it is said, will also be given positions. Volker is a well known Western Union telegraph operator.

### Contest for Official Printing

A warm contest is on between the two Democratic dailies of Jefferson City, the Democrat-Tribune and the Capital News, to print the daily proceedings of the House and Senate. The successful paper does the printing gratis but furnishes 350 copies of each daily issue for the use of the members and officials of the General Assembly at a cost of \$35 per diem. During the recent primary campaign the Democrat-Tribune, owned and edited by Joseph A. Goldman, was for James A. Reed for United States Senator, carrying Jefferson City and Cole county for that candidate by 600. The Capital News espoused the cause of Long. After the primary the two papers united on the Democratic ticket. The result was that Senator Reed carried Cole county by over 1500, and the remainder of the state ticket ran close behind.

It is stated that the contest for the official printing will be compromised by giving the Senate portion to the Democrat-Tribune and the House end to the Capital News. Editor Goldman's friends have suggested this division of the patronage and that this may be decided. If the sponsors of the Capital News accept the compromise the two Cole county forces will then boom Rufus Hollister, the editor and chief owner of the latter Democratic morning daily, for the Secretaryship of the Senate which pays \$7 a day.

A Happy New Year to all.

## PERPETUAL YOUTH

by CHRISTOPHER G. HAZARD  
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TIME, to be ever young, is born again  
With every year, and thus he flouts his youth.  
Were he incarnate once alone, sure then  
He evidently would be old, in truth.

Thus is he envious, yet all his frost  
But pales the crimson banner of the rose;  
It laughs upon his spiteful labor lost.  
Renewed in fragrances when winter goes.

Nor knows the urchin the interior star  
That, all untouched by him, will yet attain  
Its heaven, and from its glorious heights afar  
Will twinkle down and smile at him again!

## A New Year's Greeting

By Emory J. Haynes

THINK of an Egyptian pyramid—the Sphinx, for instance, that stone forged head of a man. It stolidly stares out of sightless eyes over the wastes of sand. Now think of a big town clock in the forehead of that hard face. The hour hand has been wagging around and yet around for all these centuries. And now it marks the beginning of another New Year. Does the stony face smile? No. Do the granite lips move to bid us, of this age, a Happy New Year? No. If we speak up to the broken ears do they hear? Never.

Such a senseless, heartless thing is time. It knows us not nor cares for us. It has no eyes to see us, whether we be Greeks, Egyptians or Yankies. As well might be the countless grains of the desert sands, we and the generations gone before us. Our laughter and our tears are alike to time. If we living beings carve a clock on its brows; if we renew its wheels as they wear out; if we wind it day by day and appoint our children to keep it going after us; if we make its iron tongue strike the hours on a bell, it yet is nothing to the sphinx of Old Time. We only are the living ones. Time is not alive. And if there were no living ear of man or beast on the vast Sahara there would be no sound of the striking clock.

We speak in error of the New Year's coming. It is we living souls who come and go. Time never comes, never goes; is not new, not old. Time is a fetish, an imaginary thing. Man is all, in fact, since the soulless beasts take no note of time, and God's measure is Eternity.

What we do on New Year's day is to take note of our existence. Away back of us are multitudes of human lives to whom we realize our relation. We say back of us. Why not say before us? For they are the procession that passed this way. Are we the head of the column, or is it they, who have gone before? In either view we are all one. It is Humanity that is passing over the earth. The Sphinx is nothing since it has no soul to see us pass, or to hear us as we pause and toss our cups in the air before him in a New Year's festival.

Instead of the pyramid let us look up to a Father. How different the thought! Eyes has He and He sees us; ears, and He hears our thankful acclamations. Hands has He, which extend

themselves to sustain us, to help the toddling children, to uphold the aged. "For a thousand years in thy light are but as yesterday when it is passed, and as a watch in the night."

We think today of brotherhood. We are conscious alike of our mortality and our immortality. Life seems sweet and we are glad to be alive. Life seems all embracing, all conquering, for we have survived so many trials and yet are living.

In vain does one seek to put it in words, this mighty shout of men into the faces of the aged stars and to the sunrise, "A Happy New Year." It is a day of tinkling bells and music with dancing feet. Yet poor indeed must be the mind that cannot also rise to say: "When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained, what is man, that Thou art mindful of him?" And so give thanks.

### GREETED WITH COLD WATER

A quaint New Year's custom observed in South Pembroke, the "Little England beyond Wales," is described in a London newspaper. Between six and seven o'clock on New Year's morning the householders are aroused by a succession of smart taps at their doors. On opening them they will be greeted by one or more children, chiefly boys, armed with a little year, I cheerfully resolve to obey all or other evergreen plant. The greeting consists of the words, "Will you take this New Year's water in, please?" No true native of the district would dream of refusing, for this water is supposed to bring good luck for the ensuing year. If the child's request is granted, he sends a spray of icy water into the face of the gentleman or lady of the house, with the words, "I wish you a happy New Year!" Every member of the household must participate in the luck-bringing water, so the child is brought up to the members of the family still abed and the formula is repeated again.

### MAKING THE YEAR

A New Year is the starting place. Let's leave it with a smiling face. Let's start with laughter and with song. And when tomorrow comes along, Let's cling to all our happy ways. Until we've built a stack of days. And weeks, and months of faith and cheer.

And made of it a happy year.  
—Detroit Free Press.

### THE TIMES WISHES TO ALL FOR 1923:

May the roads be smooth,  
And the skies be clear,  
As you journey through  
The Bright New Year.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McClintock, of St. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carver, of Crystal City, were Christmas guests of Mrs. Susanna Wood and Mrs. J. E. Garton.

## Missing Word

Interest in the Missing Word Contest still remains at a high degree of interest, and there is no noticeable diminution in the number of contestants who are seeking out these elusive words, with great success.

The word last week was "your", and was omitted from the advertisement of the Farmington Hardware Co., from between the words "fox" and "past". The word this week begins with "t", which is sufficient information, we feel, to the wide awake contestants in this search.

## CHRISTMAS BELLS AND WEDDING BELLS JINGLE

### Marriage Licenses

Dec. 21st—  
Joe Sinc and Stella Burnia, both of Flat River.

Dec. 22nd—  
Clarence Thornhill, of Richwoods, Mo., and Avis Morton, of Hickory Grove, Mo.

Arthur Lee Griffin, of Elvins, and Doris Dunlap, of Cherryville. William Henderson and Pearl Miller, both of Leadwood. Earl McGee, of Leadwood, and Viola Williams, of Franklany.

Dec. 23rd—  
Truman Tinker, of Flat River, and Hazel Hutchings, of Desloge. Homer Nash and Myrtle Helms, of Elvins.

Warrie D. Puckett and Pearl Calahan, both of Desloge. W. L. Oelsen and Marna Williamson, both of Poplar Bluff.

Wm. H. Doe, of Bonne Terre, and Clara R. Dyle, of Flat River. Henry E. Nelson and Nellie Irene Black, both of Elvins.

Harvey W. Walker and Hallie Henderson, both of Flat River. Curtis Colson and Lucy Allen, both of Desloge.

Henry McLeod, of Flat River, and Blanche Grant, of Greeley, Mo. Marvin Allen and Clara Gregory, both of Route 3, Farmington.

Dec. 26th—  
Joe Gibson and Ida Walston, both of Cantwell.

### Mund—Eaves

Geo. Mond and Miss Ida Lillian Eaves were quietly married at the Baptist parsonage Sunday afternoon by Rev. G. C. Greenway. Mr. and Mrs. Milton Menge were the attendants. This estimable young couple has a large circle of friends in Farmington and vicinity, who extend hearty congratulations.

### Allen—Gregory

Marvin Allen and Miss Clara Gregory, of Farmington Route 3, were united in marriage at 10 a. m. Christmas day, by Rev. G. C. Greenway. Friends wish them much happiness.

### Justice Zolman Has Large Report

The following happy couples were united in holy bonds of matrimony by J. P. Zolman December 21st: Joe Sinc and Miss Stella Burnia, of Flat River; Dec. 22nd, Wm. Henderson and Miss Pearl Miller, of Leadwood; Earl McGee, of Leadwood, and Miss Viola Williams, of Franklany; Dec. 23rd, Henry McLeod, of Flat River, and Miss Blanche Grant, of Greeley, Mo.

### Wills—Galvin

Henry C. Wills, of Brandon, Ia., and Mrs. Clara Galvin, of Farmington, were united in marriage at six o'clock December 19th, at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. Tal Hughes, Rev. J. M. Bailey officiating.

### Thomas—Herrington

Frank Thomas, of St. Louis, and Miss Ollie Herrington, of Desloge, were married by Rev. G. C. Greenway at the Baptist parsonage Wednesday, December 27th.

### MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement has been made of the marriage of William Swink, of this city, to Miss Lois Wescot, of Oran, the wedding to occur at the home of the bride on Dec. 30th.

Mr. Swink is a son of Judge and Mrs. E. E. Swink, and is one of Farmington's most worthy, industrious and promising young business men. Miss Wescot is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Wescot, a leading family of Oran, formerly of this city.

The Times joins many friends in wishing that the nuptial celebration of to-morrow will result in long life and much happiness for the participants.

As usual, for the past twenty-five years, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Giesing, Sr., entertained at Christmas dinner at their splendid home Mr. and Mrs. Peter Giesing and daughter, Miss Marion. There was also present the daughter of the host and hostess, Mrs. W. G. Patton and husband, Dr. Patton, of Ft. Scott, Kan.

At the banquet table were unique place cards announcing the marriage of Miss Marion Giesing to Wesley Holle of Los Angeles, Calif., to occur in February next. The bride-to-be is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Giesing, one of Farmington's most prominent and substantial citizens, who is president of the Giesing Milling Co. She is one of the city's most charming and accomplished young ladies, greatly admired for her many charming traits of character. She is a graduate of Stephens College of Columbia, Mo., and of Barnard College, New York City, and a member of Beta Sigma Omicron Sorority.

The prospective groom is a promising young business man and is a nephew of Ed. Holler of this city, whom he visited the past summer, when he met his future wife.

## A Real Expert Road Builder

Ferman T. O'Dell, a native of this locality, is taking his place as an expert road builder, not only in his home county, but in other parts of the State. In this day, when the people in general are so unanimously aroused to the great need and importance for good road building, there is a constantly and rapidly increasing demand for the services of good road contractors, and there is abundant success in store for the really successful road constructor. At least such is proving to be so in the experiences of Ferman O'Dell, and his success in that field of enterprise now seems to be assured.

He has built several high-class roads in this county, and all the construction he has put in is proving to be good, much better than such work formerly proved to be, and often at no greater prices than were formerly paid. Last year Ferman received a contract for building several miles of road in this county, between Libertyville and the county line, on the Fredericktown road, on low bid, and the manner in which that construction was completed has won much favorable comment from those who know good road construction. Much grading had to be done on this job, and the manner in which hills were pulled down and the grades reduced won many favorable comments for the builder. That was Ferman's first big job in road building, as it was also the beginning of what now seems to be an unusually busy and profitable career as a road builder.

His next job in this county was the cut-off out of Bismarck on the road to Elvins. He is now adding the finishing touches to this new road of a fraction over two miles, the contract price of which is something over \$18,000, and it is said to be a model high-class road, built with the thoroughness that Ferman invariably bestows on his work. The dressing of this road will be the justly celebrated Iron Mountain chat, the equal of which has never yet been discovered for local surfacing.

The past week Ferman has been notified that he has been awarded two road contracts in Northeast Missouri, near Hannibal. One of these, for which his bid was something over \$30,000, is about five miles in extent, and is in Ralls county. The other contract is in Marion county, only a few miles distant. It covers about two miles, and the price is practically \$10,000. Ferman will start work on these contracts in the early spring, but the worst part of the "spreading out" process on which is now apparently entered is that St. Francois county will perhaps be deprived of a large part of his time, if, indeed, the increasing demands for his services does not take him entirely away. He expects to move his family to Hannibal, where they will live while this work is in progress.

While his many friends here will be pleased to know of his success in his chosen work, they will not appreciate the possibility of losing him from St. Francois county, where there should be practically enough road building to keep him busy most of his time. But The Times joins with many friends in wishing for Ferman the abundant success he has thus far so richly merited as a good roads builder.

## Christmas and Summer Weather

Christmas was as warm and sunny as a summer day in this locality. It was a perfectly splendid day to be out of doors, and a large proportion of our population spent much of the day in autoing. The weather would have answered practically as well for the Fourth of July, and it was a real pleasure to spin over the fine roads for which St. Francois county is noted.

A very noticeable moon circle Christmas eve indicated that the warm, bright weather was soon to end, for a time at least, and on Tuesday afternoon the weather conditions began to indicate the change was at hand. Rain began to fall early Tuesday morning, continuing all night and all day Wednesday, but it was not until about noon Wednesday that there were any indications of winter, when the mercury began a gradual descent, which by evening had changed the rain into a sleety precipitation.

As night came on the mercury continued to decline gradually, and yesterday morning there was an icy crust, well preserved, though the temperature was but slightly below freezing. Through the day there was a downward tendency in the temperature, sufficient to prevent thawing, and still the weather is mild for the season.

### THANKS, BRO. PIGG

Bro. T. P. Pigg, the shining light on the Arcadia Valley Enterprise, enunciated the following glittering thought in that palladium of liberty last week: "If you believe what the Democrats are teaching, you'll land at Farmington."

"It must have strained Bro. Pigg's heart-strings to have made such an admission, as he does not often have anything but brick-bats for anything outside of the g. o. p. But is the above not an admission that Democratic teachings are calculated to lead the people out of the tangle and morass of the wilderness and onto higher ground? We believe we have heard Bro. Pigg, like many others, say that residence in Farmington was more greatly to be desired than anywhere he knew of on this earth."